

**From:** [Anne Kukowski](#)  
**To:** [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)  
**Subject:** Turn down Wabasha Brewery Request for a sound variance  
**Date:** Sunday, June 9, 2024 9:11:41 PM

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June 9, 2023

444 Hall Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

St. Paul City Council

Members of the City Council:

I am again writing to oppose a request from Wabasha Brewery for a variance. I have lost track of how many variances Wabasha Brewery has requested and I have had to write to oppose. Each time, the Council has approved the variance requested, albeit with modifications. A business that has to request this many variances to operate in a neighborhood does not belong in that neighborhood.

My husband and I bought a lot that had been vacant for about 50 years. That lot is in an area zoned as residential. We owned the lot for several years without building. During these years, we spent time on the lot many Saturday and Sunday afternoons, enjoying the trees, the wildlife, and the relative quiet. The Wabasha Brewery operated at the bottom of the bluff, but there was no outdoor entertainment - neither games nor music. There was nothing in the zoning code or in fact that led us to expect we would be building next to an entertainment destination with outdoor games and loud music. The Wabasha Brewery and the City Council's failure to enforce the zoning codes are depriving us of the right to enjoy our property.

Since 2021, the year after we built, the Brewery has been playing amplified music, initially without a variance and later with a variance. We can hear the music in our yard. We can hear the music in our house, even with all the windows shut.

As the City Council, it is your job to enforce city codes, including the zoning codes. Ask yourself how you would like to be subjected to someone else's musical taste both inside and outside your home? And during the time of year when you most want to enjoy your yard? I happen to like opera. Would you like me to come and play opera next to your home for hours on end and at volumes that you can hear even inside your home?

I work full time and also work any uncompensated hours. I would like to be able to enjoy my home during the weekend. My father died June 21st of last year. I would have liked some quiet to mourn this loss, as he remained a large part of my life up until his death. Instead, I got to listen to yelling from the outdoor games during the week and music that I did not care for, did not want to hear, and was generally pretty bad. I am asking you to do your job, protect homeowners in residential areas, and turn down this request.

Sincerely,

Anne Kukowski